

pay \$20 and be free
to watch the 11 o'clock news,
noting the weather report and
basketball scores.

I'm not greedy
just honest
with all my mirrors.

-- Kevin Sweeney

Portland ME

PIECE OF ASS

I told her I couldn't
write a poem about every
guy that fell in love with
her; even my jealousy has
its limits. She told me it
wasn't a question of falling

in love -- all these guys
want, she said, is a piece
of ass. Stroking my beard,

I replied, in my worldly-
wise way, that perhaps to
these guys love is a piece

of ass. Thinking back on
our conversation, I've
decided to expand the

boundaries of my envy
just enough to accommodate
this poem.

MIDDLES

There's something about this
day that will not allow me
to begin or complete a single

poem. I've got seven pages of
"middles" and little else, but
the general observation that it's

going to be too hot to sleep
tonight. Standing naked before
the mirror, six feet of bones

stacked on the bathroom rug,
I'm bothered by my inability to
sweat. At 145 pounds, I feel

fat & heavy and at 30 years of
age, a little too old to be
planning my future.

-- Steven Doering

Chicago IL

3 SISTERS

I went to pay rent on my storage
which is now run by 3 middle-aged sisters
cheerily they greeted me "Oh how nice
youve come to pay early"
I responded "Well you burnt me so bad last month
thought Id pay early this time"
that off-handed remark ruffled their feathers
"Sir we did not burn you"
"Well I was 2 days late and you charged me eleven seventy
over"
"Thats what rules are made for sir" said the other fat one
"Five bucks bookkeeping? Whats that?"
Furiously digging thru the files for a copy of the letter
they sent me
"I never received any letter"
"Sir its not our problem if you didnt get your mail"
"Well itd help if you sent it
And a dollar seventy for postage?
I thought stamps were twenty two cents"
Feathers were really flying now
"And five dollars for a fine
Ive had my stuff in here for five years and never
been charged a late fee"
"Sir thats what rules are for" I didnt
know how to take that
but clearly not making any friends here
I resolved to get my valuables out of there soon
cant trust these bitches
theyd put a lien on it quick
if I was unable to pay the rent for some reason